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Abstract:

The invention relates to antimicrobial polymers and polymer blends which are prepared by polymerizing a monomer of the formula I

$$H_2C$$

$$X-R2-N$$

$$R4$$

$$(I)$$

where

10 R1 = -H or $-CH_3$

R2 = branched or unbranched aliphatic hydrocarbon radical having from 1 to 5 carbon atoms,

R3 = H, or branched or unbranched aliphatic hydrocarbon radical having from 1 to 7 carbon atoms,

15 R4 = H, or branched or unbranched aliphatic hydrocarbon radical having from 1 to 7 carbon atoms,

R5 = H, or branched or unbranched aliphatic hydrocarbon radical having from 1 to 7 carbon atoms, and

X = O, NH, NR5

and, where appropriate, then mixing with at least one other polymer.

The antimicrobial polymers or blends may be used for producing hygiene items or items for medical technology, e.g. as a coating, or else in surface coatings or protective paints. They may also be used in a process for eliminating/reducing biofouling in water systems.